

REMARKS ON THE NORTH OF SPAIN

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Remarks on the North of Spain by John Bramsen

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JOHN BRAMSEN

REMARKS ON THE NORTH OF SPAIN

REMARKS
ON THE
NORTH OF SPAIN.

BY JOHN BRAMSEN,
AUTHOR OF TRAVELS IN EGYPT, SYRIA AND GREECE; AND OF
SAPPHO, &c. &c.

Summa sequar fastigia rerum.

VIRGIL.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR G. AND W. B. WHITTAKER,
AVE-MARIA LANE.
1823.

DEDICATION.

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF FIFE, G. K. G.

&c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

IN dedicating to your Lordship the following work, I take into consideration the deep interest your Lordship has always felt in every thing which regards the welfare of Spain;—where, during a residence of several years, your Lordship heroically participated in the endeavour to mitigate the sufferings of that unhappy

country; and personally contributed towards its final emancipation from the yoke of foreign despotism. The recollection of this sympathetic co-operation, during their arduous struggle for independence, is still, I am proud to mention, alive in the bosom of every true Spaniard.

I need not eulogise the protection, which your Lordship is so well known to extend to the arts and sciences, without distinction of nation, and for which your Lordship's name is so justly honoured in this country, as well as on the continent.

I also am happy, that these REMARKS afford me an opportunity of publicly avowing to your Lordship, the high sense of gratitude I entertain for the kindness I have experienced, during the many years, I have been honoured with your Lordship's friendship.

I subscribe myself, with sentiments of
profound respect and esteem,

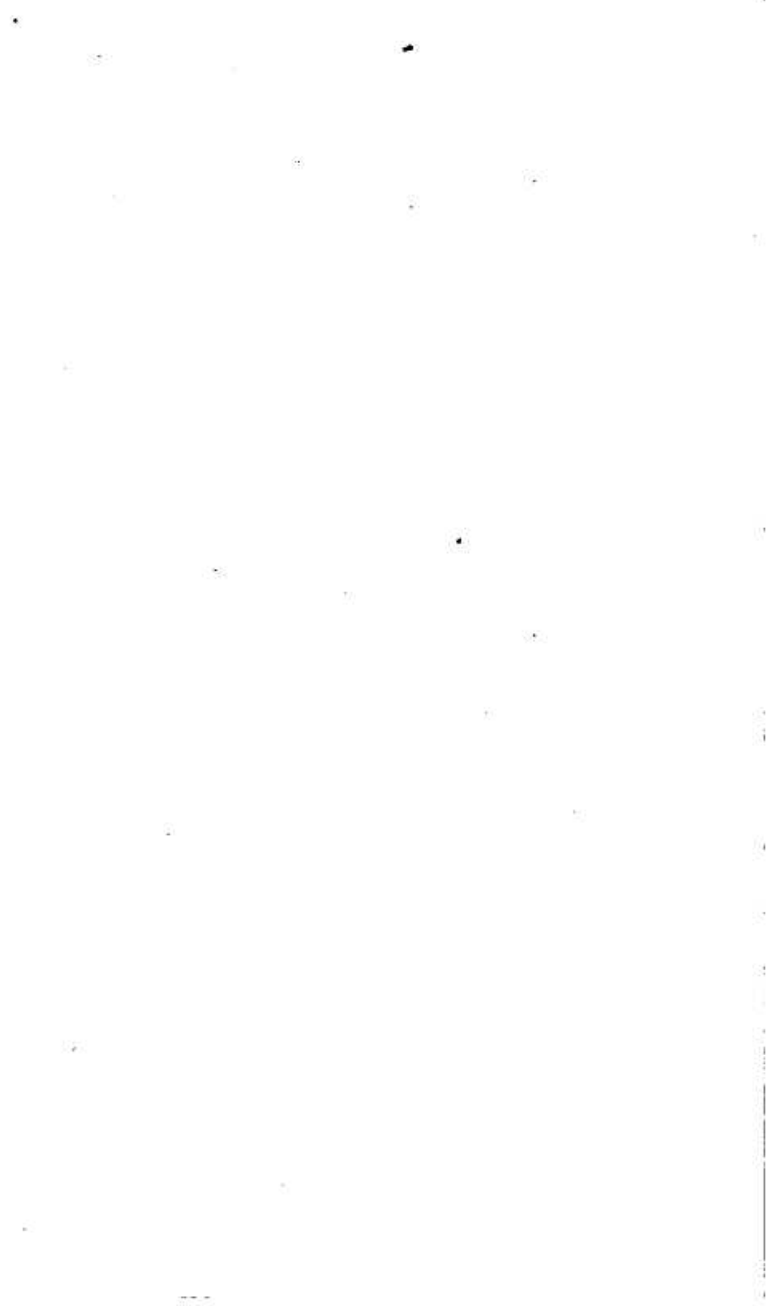
My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and obliged Servant,

JOHN BRAMSEN.

*Grosvenor Square,
Sept. 1823.*



PREFACE.

I AM well aware that, at the present period, when the mania for writing travels has so generally spread, a publication of this nature is no very welcome offering, unless it be well furnished with interesting matter; and, therefore, I experience some sensations of timidity on presenting to the public this small volume: and were it not, that the subject concerns a country, upon which every eye in Europe is fixed, I should perhaps have consigned it to oblivion.

If the following remarks have no other merit, they certainly are entitled to that of being unbiassed by party feelings; and I assure those, who may be inclined to peruse them, that I had firmly resolved, on leaving the *Lazaretto of Behobia*, to keep aloof from politics and from the contagion of party, which resolution I have in my travels always firmly maintained; and whenever it has been my lot to depict scenery, customs, manners, or party feelings, I have never heightened the picture by false colouring to excite admiration, or given exaggerated statements, with the design of flattering the views of my political readers.

I am sure that I need offer no apology for having indulged feelings of gratitude to my friends abroad, to whom I owe much for their politeness and hospitality; and I am happy to avail myself of this